

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph that begins at line 35 of page 5 with the following amended paragraph.

The feedback loop (26 in FIG. 1) is then allowed to drive the output oscillator frequency towards the frequency NF_{ref} where the output signal S_{out} would be locked to the reference signal S_{ref} . The loop drives the control voltage to the #2 circle which is at the limit of the predetermined control-voltage range. The controller senses this (e.g., with aid of a comparator) and increments the divisor X to place ~~place~~ the output oscillator frequency on the tuning curve 44.